

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are now subject to a restriction requirement made in the Office Action dated 14 May 2008. The Office Action identified two species: Species 1, depicted in Figs. 3-5D, wherein the needle pierces a tissue flap only in order to enter the chamber beyond a septum wall to close and/or seal a septal defect; and Species 2, depicted in Figs. 6-8B, wherein the needle pierces both a tissue flap and an overlapping portion of the septum wall in order to close and/or seal a septal defect.

In response, the applicants hereby elect Species 2 without traverse.

Prompt and favorable action on the merits of the claims is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the undersigned can be reached at (949) 567-6700. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this Amendment to deposit account No. 15-0665.

Respectfully submitted,

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

Dated: July 14, 2008

By: 

Mark Stirrat

Reg. No. 50,756

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP
4 Park Plaza, Suite 1600
Irvine, CA 92614
949/567-6700 Telephone
949/567-6710 Facsimile